DEFERRED TELEPOUCH

ACTION: OG/PCD-5 (512) INFO: ODPD-D, RF, FILE, DOREFORD, (8/W)

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PAGE 001 TOR: 201833Z DEC 79 7576580/ 87232

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S E C R E T 201703Z DEC 79 DEFERRED TELEPOUCH

CITET 387232

TO: WASHINGTON INFO

FOR: C/EUR/G

SUBJECT: CAMISE

REF: EGNW 12190

| | TRAVEL PROGRAM RMJ |
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- 1. SINCE RETURNING TO _____, COS (HER FORMER CASE OFFICER) MET CAMISE THREE TIMES, MOST RECENTLY FOR ABOUT THREE HOURS ON 19 DECEMBER 1979.
- 2. IN SUMMARY, CAMISE IS VERY WELL ESTABLISHED IN BONN.
 SHE IS THE BONN EDITOR OF HER NEWSPAPER (IDEN), SHE NOW HAS
 NEARLY 30 YEARS OF FULLY AUTHENTICATED JOURNALISTIC EXPERIENCE
 UNDER HER BELT, HAS WON CONSIDERABLE OVERT RECOGNITION, OWNS
 AN ATTRACTIVE TOWN HOUSE IN THE FASHIONABLE BONN KESSENICH AREA
 AND HAS TRAVELED, USUALLY ACCOMPANYING THE SEVERAL GERMAN
 CHANCELLORS, ALL OVER THE WORLD, AND BEYOND HER WILDEST DREAMS.
 NOW IN HER LATE FIFTIES, SHE LIVES SEPARATED FROM HER 64-YEAR
 OLD HUSBAND BUT REMAINS ON FRIENDLY TERMS WITH HIM. FOR EXAMPLE,
 THEY PLAN TO GO TO CHURCH TOGETHER ON CHRISTMAS EVE. THEY HAVE
 A SON, NOW IN HIS MID-THENTIES, A UNIVERSITY-EDUCATED CARPENTER
 IN BONN. ALL IN ALL, CAMISE IS PROUD OF WHAT SHE HAS ACHIEVED
 AND SEEMS REASONABLY AT PEACE WITH HERSELF.
- FRIENDLY. AS SHE PUT IT: "YOU PUT NO PRESSURE ON ME WHEN I WAS VULNERABLE. AS LONG AS I LIVE, I WILL APPRECIATE THAT."
- 4. PRIOR TO RECONTACTING HER IN OCTOBER, HAD NOT SEEN CAMISE SINCE 1960 BUT HAS KNOWN HER SINCE 1948 OR 49. WE QUICKLY RE-ESTABLISHED THE PREVIOUSLY EXISTING RAPPORT, INDEED WE PICKED UP EXACTLY WHERE WE LEFT OFF. CAMISE ANSWERED FRANKLY, AND INSOFAR AS COULD JUDGE ACCURATELY, ALL QUESTIONS PUT TO HER. AS ONE WOULD EXPECT OF A LEADING

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79 3576580

PAGE 002 TOR: 201833Z DEC 79 7576580 [] 87232

JOURNALIST (ONE OF THE FEW WHO WERE AWARDED THE BUNDESVERDIENST-KREUZ (FEDERAL CROSS FOR MERIT), SHE IS A LIVING ENCYCLOPEDIA OF POLITICAL AND PERSONALITY INFORMATION.

- WHAT COULD SHE DO FOR US? SHE COULD GET INFORMATION IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS. HER BUREAU BEING SMALL, SHE DOES NOT HAVE TIME TO UNDERTAKE ANY EXTENSIVE RESEARCH. AS IT IS, SHE WORKS 10 - 12 HOURS DAILY, SIX DAYS A WEEK. IN HER OWN WORDS, HER EXPOSURE TO GOVERNMENTAL AND PARTY HAPPENINGS IN BONN IS SO TOTAL THAT SHE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT IS A SECRET IN THE STRICT SENSE OF THE WORD. SHE CLAIMS THAT SHE WAS NEVER DENIED INFORMATION IN THE LAST DECADE OR SO. SOMETIMES SHE IS TOLD THAT IT WAS NOT TO BE PRINTED. SHE HAS ALWAYS HONORED THAT. SHE COULD RECALL ONLY ONE THING RECENTLY THAT WAS KEPT FROM HER AND HER COLLEAGUES AND IT WAS NOT VERY IMPORTANT: THE REPLACE-MENT FOR THE OUTGOING MINISTER OF STATE IN THE CHANCELLERY. WISCHNEWSKI HAS BEEN WORKING IN THE CHANCELLERY FOR THE PAST FIVE MONTHS WITHOUT THIS BECOMING KNOWN PUBLICLY, OR EVEN TO THE WELL-INFORMED JOURNALISTS. BASICALLY, SHE CLAIMS, BONN IS NOT A PLACE OF POLITICAL SECRETS. NOT ALL DEVELOPMENTS ARE BROADCAST, BUT ONE CAN ALWAYS GET AT THE FACTS.
- 6. REPLACEMENT, CAMISE CAN FILE LOGICALLY ONLY MATERIAL WHICH PERTAINS TO BONN HAPPENINGS, INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS OR EVEN SPECULATION CONNECTED WITH FOREIGN VISITS TO BONN. FOR EXAMPLE, DURING RECENT GROMYKO VISIT SHE PUT QUESTION TO HIM RE SOVIET ATTITUDE ON THE HOLDING OF HOSTAGES IN TEHERAN. HER OWN PAPER IS NOT TOO INTERESTED IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, EXCEPT WHEN DEVELOPMENTS CLEARLY OF WORLD-WIDE SIGNIFICANCE, SUCH AS CURRENT IRAN SITUATION. THE PAPER HAS ONLY FOUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.
- 7. ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF COVERING POSSIBLE TRIAL OF AMERICANS IN TEHERAN, CAMISE SAID SHE COULD NOT LEAVE HER BONN JOB BUT EVEN IF SHE COULD DO SO, IT WOULD MAKE NO SENSE PROFESSIONALLY AS THERE ARE SO MANY WELL QUALIFIED GERMAN CORRESPONDENTS ALREADY ON THE SPOT. IF HER OWN PAPER WOULD SEND ANYONE AT ALL, IT WOULD BE THE CHIEF EDITOR.
- 8. IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, WE SEE ONLY A MODEST ROLE FOR CAMISE IN OUR SCHEME OF THINGS. (IS CERTAIN THAT SHE WOULD ANSWER ACCURATELY ANY QUESTIONS WE MIGHT PUT TO HER AND

SECRET

79 3576580

PAGE 003

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TOR: 201833Z DEC 79/

WITH A LITTLE INDUCEMENT SHE WOULD PROBABLY BE ABLE TO FERRET OUT INFO WHICH IS NOT IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN. HOW IMPORTANT SUCH INFORMATION MIGHT BE, REMAINS TO BE SEEN BUT CAN BE SEEN ONLY AFTER WE HAVE GIVEN HER A FEW MODEST REQUIREMENTS, FOR EXAMPLE WHEN SHE NEXT TRAVELS WITH CHANCELLOR.

9. WITH RESPECT TO THE DENIAL OF AN DA, PER MEMORANDUM DATED 19 APRIL 1961, ONE DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER TO LAUGH OR TO CRY. THAT MEMORANDUM IS SO SILLY THAT ITS REBUTTAL NOW, 18 YEARS LATER, HARDLY SEEMS WORTH THE EFFORT.

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